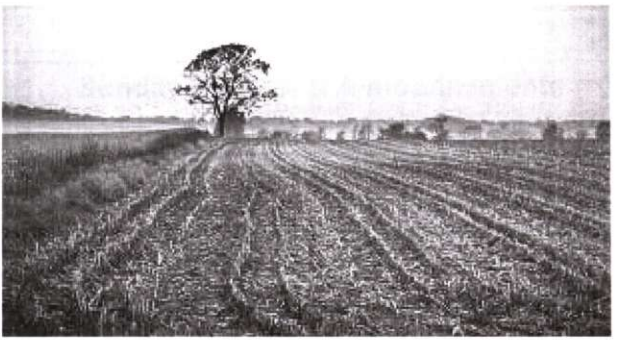
MCC
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

Sunday, October 26, 2014
20th Pentecost

Harvest
Other-Centeredness



930 North 4th Street ♦ Allentown, PA 18102
610-709-8800 ♦ info@mcclv.org ♦ www.mcclv.org

The Mission of MCCLV is to call all people to a holy life in Christ, changing lives and transforming the world

MCC LEHIGH VALLEY ORDER OF SERVICE

As you prepare for worship, take a few moments to reflect on the current state of your relationship with God. Is the communication channel completely open and free of any cross-traffic that might interfere with your ability to hear from God? What do you need to let go of, so that you may let God take control? Close your eyes, take a deep breath and let worship begin for you...

Opening Song

Call to Worship

Invitation to Ministry

A Time of Praise (3 Songs)

Prayer Preparation Song

Prayer

Scripture Reading

Children's Blessing

Live Boldly

Baptism

Message

Song of Response

Offering

Offering Song

Communion

Communion Song

Prayer Over Gifts

Closing Song

Commission & Blessing

Notes From The Office at MCCLV

Office Hours:

Committed Volunteers sought for a variety of office staff positions.

Audio-Visual Support: Anyone planning an event at MCCLV **is required to email avteam@mcclv.org at least 2 weeks** in advance to arrange any needed AV support. The church may not be able to honor last minute requests.

Space Reservation: Any individual or group wishing ot schedule a meeting or event at the church is require to fill out a space reservation form. MAKE A COMMITMENT TO HELP THE CHURCH WITH THIS WEEKLY TASK.
SEE EMMA MARRERO

Sunday Bulletin & Announcements

The deadline for all bulletin notices & announcements is **Wednesday at noon – MAKE A COMMITMENT TO HELP THE CHURCH WITH THIS WEEKLY TASK.
SEE EMMA MARRERO**

Looking for low-cost space for you birthday party or family celebration? Consider MCCLV's Fellowship Hall for your gathering! MAKE A COMMITMENT TO HELP THE CHURCH WITH THIS WEEKLY TASK
SEE EMMA MARRERO

MCCLV IS ON YOUTUBE!
To view and subscribe to our channel go to **www.youtube.com** and search **MCC LV**.

MCCLV Office Coverage Needed From Volunteers Due to Staff Layoffs and Reductions

***All Office Volunteers are required to fill out the Volunteer Form and receive Training ***

All those interested in becoming involved and helping out during this difficult time, please join us at MCCLV on Monday November 3, 2014 at 7pm

Are you interested in volunteerism? Consider these opportunities:

- **Volunteer to share information about the congregation at various locations throughout the Lehigh Valley**
- **Volunteer your time to write for and put together MCCLV's publications, such as this e-mail, list serve, Sunday bulletin or brochures**
- **Volunteer your time answering phones, replying to e-mail, maintaining the church's social media accounts and Doing other office tasks**
- **Volunteer your time cleaning the church**
- **Volunteer your time with the church library**

If you would like to commit to any of the above, praise God!

Fill out the required Volunteer Form at the church and you will be blessed in your service.

Your commitment to help is much appreciated.

For more information see
Emma Marrero or e-mail her at
autleaves@aol.com

IMPORTANT UPCOMING PROGRAM

Holiday Grief in the LGBTQ Community

As the holidays approach many of us experience dread and pain, whether due to the death of a loved one or loss of relationships and the holidays can intensify the pain.

A workshop to address the pain and dread of the holidays will be held: **Sunday, November 23, 2014 from 2:00pm-4:00pm in MCCLV's Fellowship Hall**

Tell a friend or neighbor. It will be open to the public at no cost, but pre-registration is encouraged.

The workshop will be presented by Elaine Ely, a trained, experienced and certified Grief Counselor. She can be reached at elaine.ely.pastor@gmail.com or by phone at (215) 915-4370

MCCLV IS ON FACEBOOK!

Like "Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley." All MCCLV related posts and tags must be approved through the office.

FOOD PANTRY

The Pantry is open the 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month from 1:00-3:00pm and will be distributing food in the library.

Think about volunteering one Sunday a month or once every couple of months. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, contact: Saadia Negron at **saadia.negron@yahoo.com** or Judy McNally at **njm0@Lehigh.edu**.

TRICKY TRAY DONATIONS – ALMOST THERE!

A great response was received from the request for more PURPLE donations, thank you to all who helped! For PURPLE, 50-55 baskets are needed and currently there are 43 baskets. That is a huge improvement!

The greatest need now is for the ORANGE (retail value $150-$299) and YELLOW (retail value $300-$499) categories. For ORANGE, currently 2 baskets have been promised; a total of 5-8 are needed. For YELLOW, currently 3 baskets have been promised; a total of 5 are needed. There are specific needs for 3 items that have been advertised but have not yet been donated. They are:

- Large screen HD Television (valued at $500+)
- Microsoft Surface Pro (valued at $400+)
- Dyson Vacuum Cleaner (valued at $300+)

The committee recognizes the larger items are difficult for individuals to donate. These can be done though if several people, families or other groups take on a larger item together. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated. Please see Sue Carpenter or email her at **TrickyTrayMCCLV @gmail.com** with questions. All baskets are due to the church before Saturday, 11/1/14.

TRICKY TRAY TICKETS ON SALE NOW – HELP NEEDED!

The Tricky Tray Committee needs help selling tickets for the Big Event! Please consider helping by buying your ticket and by inviting friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to this fun event. Here are the details: MCCLV will hold its 8th Annual Tricky Tray Fundraiser on **Saturday, November 8th** at the American Club of Coplay, 300 Cherry Street, Coplay. Doors open at 9:00 am and drawing begins at 12 noon. Tickets are available now and cost $25. Admission includes lunch (foods popular at "Tailgating Parties") and a starter pack of tickets. Additional raffle tickets will be available for sale the day of the event, as well as, a 50/50 raffle. Cash, personal checks (with proper photo ID), as well as, MasterCard and VISA will be accepted at the event.

Questions or to buy tickets, please see Wendy Bitterman or any member of the Tricky Tray Committee following worship.

CALLING ALL BASKET WRAPPERS!

Kudos to the basket wrappers who helped wrap over 60 baskets already! Believe it or not, there's more to do. The Tricky Tray Committee will be holding its final wrapping session on **Saturday, November 1st from 9 am to 12 noon (donuts and coffee).** All supplies will be provided. If you are able to be there, please let Sue Carpenter or another Tricky Tray Committee member know. Any and all help appreciated!

TRICKY TRAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – IT PAYS TO VOLUNTEER!

The Tricky Tray Committee needs volunteers to help before and on the day of the event. Volunteers are needed on **Friday, November 7th** to transport baskets and set up the event space. Volunteers are needed on **Saturday, November 8th** to sell raffle tickets for each prize category and to assist with prize running during the drawing portion of the day. Those volunteering during the event on the 8th will receive $26 in perks and our eternal gratitude!

Day-of-Event Volunteers get: reduced priced $20 admission ticket and lunch (value $5), 5 Purple tickets (value $5), 3 Orange tickets (value $9) and 1 Yellow ticket (value $7) for a total value of $26.

Please contact Jenn LaTorre at jlaroux2002@yahoo.com or see her following worship to sign up.

Movie Night
November 22, 2014
7:00pm—9:00pm

MCCLV will be hosting a screening of "God's Not Dead"

There will be a $5.00 donation which will go to MCCLV's General Fund.

Contact Cindy Rodriguez at picasso691@hotmail.com

Come join in!

Quote Of The Day

It is vital that when educating our children's brain that we do not neglect to educate their hearts.

(Dalai Lama)

Church Share Meeting

Will be held in the
MCCLV Library
October 28, 2014
6:00pm—7:00pm

All are welcome to help MCCLV explore the idea of sharing space with other churches in the Lehigh Valley

MCCLV is Collecting Donations for Food Cards

2nd Sunday of the month after the worship service. Consider purchasing a gift card from **Giant, Redners or Weis** or making a donation to help those in great need of reducing their grocery store bills.

Be strong and courageous,
do not be afraid, do not be discouraged,
for the Lord will be with your wherever you go.
(Joshua 1:9)

Early Morning Prayer now being held in the room behind the sound booth

Prayer Develops Our Relationship with God

If we never speak to our friends or never listen to anything they might have to say to us, our relationships will quickly deteriorate. It is the same way with God. Prayer - communicating with God helps us grow closer and more intimately connected with God.

Zechariah 13:9

I will bring that group through the fire and make them pure, just as gold and silver are refined and purified by fire. They will call on my name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'These are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.' (NLT)

Below are excerpts from Rev. Goudy's sermon on October 19, 2014 titled **"Harvest Generosity."**

The preaching schedule here at the church is put together at least one year in advance - the theme and scripture passage for today were selected last year.

So I had no idea that I'd be preaching on the topic generosity the Sunday after major staff cutbacks at MCCLV were announced.

God's timing is funny sometimes and God is certainly calling this church to a greater generosity, let's respond joyfully to the call!

What is the definition of generosity? To be generous is to freely give. Paul makes it clear in the passage from 2 Corinthians that "each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." We're not being generous if we grumble after we've given someone something or if we've been coerced to give something. Being generous is being free, we're not caught up with figuring out what we're going to get back, we're not entangled in people's expectations, instead, being generous is a breath of fresh air.

When we are living more for God, giving freely of ourselves becomes a reflection of God's greatness.

How generous we are in life is not related to the amount in our bank account or the size of our income. Generosity has nothing to do with our wages or our 401k or 403b or pension or IRAs or whatever. There are some people who have a ton of money and wouldn't know generosity if it hit them over the head. There are others who have very little money, very little savings and yet are generous beyond belief with their finances.

How generous we are financially is directly related to our relationship with God.

Generous people have a deep and abiding relationship with God. In the gospels, Jesus spoke more of money than he did about love because Jesus knew how tied up and messed up we get with money. Over and over again, the directive from Jesus is to give of ourselves, give of our resources, give of our time and even give our very lives. If the cross of Christ does not convince us to give overflowingly, then nothing will convince us!

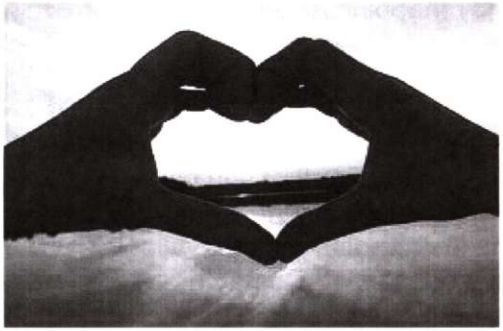
David Mathis is a book editor and an elder in a church in Minnesota. He says that "generosity is one of the great evidences of truly being a Christian."

Generosity indicates we're living a Christian life.

Our approach to generosity reveals a lot about us - it especially reveals where we are at with God and where we are at in our spiritual walk. Generous Christians are waiting for God to present opportunities to give and they gladly respond.

We are generous in our approach to God because God has been generous with us. We've been given the life abundant! God sets a banquet before us! God gifts each person uniquely!

Our response to this lavish generosity of God is to give lavishly of ourselves so that more people might know God and grow in God.



CHURCH MEMBER LORELI BAUER HOSTS A "GIVE THANKS" OPEN HOUSE

Join Loreli & Leslie
Saturday, November 1st
4:00-7:00pm

420 South 9th Street
Perkasie, PA

Home-made soups, bread, wassail and more

Bring a side dish or a dessert to share

RSVP by October 25 to 215-257-6836

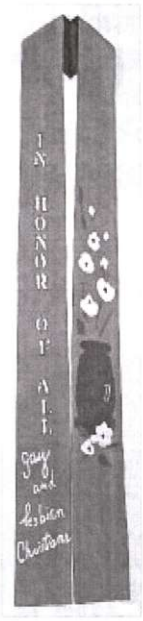
Donations for MCCLV's Food Pantry will graciously be accepted

Spiritual Drum Circle
TODAY;
Nov 9 & 30;
Dec 14 & 28

Meeting in the MCCLV's Sanctuary from 2:15-3:15. Join us for a relaxed, fun exploration of spirit through group drumming hosted by Raea. Nurture the connection between you and Spirit, others and your higher self. But be warned: exposure to drumming may cause sudden outbursts of joy, happiness, energy, creativity, awareness and spontaneous healing!

No experience is necessary. If you have a drum or percussion instrument, please bring it. Some instruments will be available to share. Have questions? Contact Barb Baus at barb.baus@mcclv.org

A celebration of LGBT inclusion in religious life



Shower of Stoles PROJECT

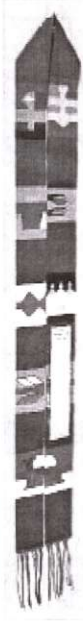


Exhibit and Program

October 29, 2014 6:30-8pm
brief program at 7pm

Egner Memorial Chapel at Muhlenberg College
2400 W. Chew St. Allentown, PA 18104

The Shower of Stoles is a collection of over a thousand liturgical stoles and other sacred items representing the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people of faith. These religious leaders have served in thirty-two denominations and faith traditions, in six countries, and on three continents. Each stole contains the story of a GLBT person who is active in the life and leadership of their faith community in some way: minister, elder, deacon, teacher, missionary, musician, administrator, or active layperson.

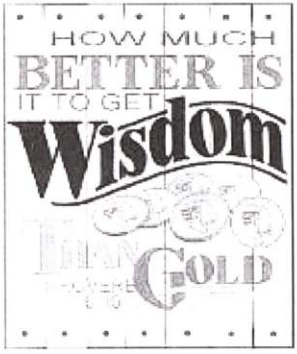
Sponsored by:

BRADBURY-SULLIVAN
LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER
Serving the LGBT Community of the Greater Lehigh Valley

MUHLENBERG
COLLEGE

Office of the Chaplain
Hillel
Students for Queer Advocacy
Muhlenberg Trans* Advocacy Coalition

Want to Grow in Wisdom and Knowledge?



Make a six night commitment this coming Autumn that will transform your life! Join in a six-part Adult Bible Study, meeting Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Get an in-depth look at six important New Testament letters and be forever changed!

October 29: Philippians
November 5: Colossians
November 12: 1 Thessalonians
November 19: 2 Thessalonians

PAID NURSERY WORKER SOUGHT

Paid Nursery Worker sought for MCCLV'S Sunday morning worship services. For an application, Sue Carpenter at sue.carpenter@voya.com

Help Wanted

Help MCCLV!

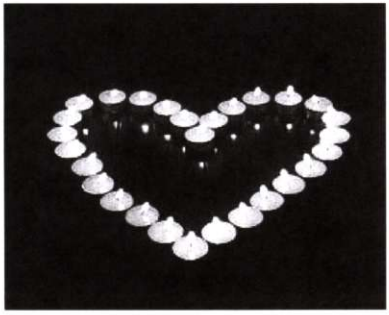
Check with your employer this week to inquire if they provide matching funds for a charity of the employee's choice. Choose MCCLV to receive these matching funds!

Policy & Procedure Committee

All strong organizations run smoothly with clear policies and procedures in place. Share your skills with the Policy & Procedure Committee.

Meets 4th Sunday
For more information,
please see **Emma Marrero:**
emma.marrero@kidspeace.org

Include The Name of a Departed Loved One



MCCLV will be observing All Saints Sunday on **November 2**, with a special slide show of names of beloved family members or friends who have passed on to glory. Send in the name(s) you'd like to see on the slide show to office@mcclv.org or phone 610-709-8800.

"*For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!*"

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Save The Date

November 16, 2014
12:30pm
Noon Potluck

MCCLV MEMBERS AIM FOR 10%!

Weekly Pledge Guidelines				
Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
$200	$20	$10	$8	$4
$500	$50	$25	$20	$10
$750	$75	$37	$30	$15
$1,000	$100	$50	$40	$20
$1,500	$150	$75	$60	$30
$2,000	$200	$100	$80	$40

MCC
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

8th ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY BASKET RAFFLE

TAILGATE PARTY

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 8, 2014

Doors Open at 9 AM
Drawing Begins at 12 NOON

American Club of Coplay Pavilion
300 Cherry Street
Coplay, PA 18037

TICKET PRICE: $25.00 (non-refundable)
Includes Tailgate Party Luncheon

To pre-purchase tickets (space is limited)
Email: TrickyTrayMCCLV@gmail.com
or see a Tricky Tray Committee Member

Personal checks at the door require photo ID
MasterCard and VISA accepted day of event

Over 100

Fabulous Prizes to Win!
Flat Screen LCD/HDTV
Lenovo Laptop
Microsoft Surface
eReader
Dyson Vacuum
Keurig Coffee Maker
Blue Ray Player
Children's Electronics
Coach Purse
Cookware
Lottery Ticket Trees

PLUS

Fantastic Gift Cards!
Cash Prizes!
Door Prizes!

All proceeds raised will benefit the Communities and Missions served by:
Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley
930 North 4th St., First Floor ~ Allentown, PA 18102 ~ 610-709-8800
The Mission of MCCLV is to call all people to a holy life in Christ, changing lives and transforming the world!

UPCOMING WORSHIP AT MCCLV

All Saints: November 2, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Readings: 1 John 3:1-3 & Revelation 7:9-17
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Around The Throne"**

22nd Pentecost: November 9, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Psalm 42
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Savoring the Psalms I"**

23rd Pentecost: November 16, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Psalm 80
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Savoring the Psalms II"**

24th Pentecost: November 23, 2014
Scripture Reading: Psalm 46
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Savoring the Psalms III"**

1st Advent: November 30, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Psalm 124
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **" Savoring the Psalms IV"**

2nd Advent: December 14, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Psalm 118
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Savoring Psalms V"**

Today's Scripture Reading:

Matthew 25:31-46

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

MCCLV's Weekly 2014 Budgeted for Giving is $3,916.98

Date	Attendance	Giving
10/26/2014	90	$4,514.32
10/12/2014	100	$1,965.29
10/05/2014	83	$2,492.70
9/28/2014	101	$2,682.88

Full financial reporting is provided at the Board meeting on the 2nd Sunday of every month. All are welcome to attend. Additionally, reports may be viewed in the Board binder in the Library.

MCCLV MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Congregational Care & Health:

Karl Steiner | karl.steiner@mcclv.org

20s30s Young Men's Group, G.I.F.T. Young Women's Group, MCCLV Retirees, HIV Support, Drumming Circle, Fellowship, Visitor Team, Prayer Team, Reconciliation & Affirmation, Grief Counseling & Deacon Care

Spiritual Formation:

See Rev. Goudy for more information

FORGE Groups, Adult Spiritual Formation and Children & Youth Spiritual Formation

Outreach & Justice:

Barb Baus | barb.baus@mcclv.org

Evangelism, Free Market, Silent Witness, Food Pantry and Helping Hands Ministry

Media & Marketing:

See Rev. Goudy for more information

Communications and Marketing Ministry

Denominational Representatives:

Lay Delegates Hope Hilby and Normana Schaaf

MCCLV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sue Carpenter, Jim Harbst, Diana LaTorre, Emma Marrero, Lauren Sheldon and Ron Smith

If you would like an item included on the Board agenda see any Board Member

MCCLV DEACONS

Loreli Bauer, Maricel Concepcion, Clarence Freed, Hope Hilby, Jessica Mitchell, Normana Schaaf, Karl Steiner and Carol Stevens

MCCLV STAFF

Pastor: Elizabeth Goudy | rev.goudy@mcclv.org

Music and Worship Director: Brian Jones | brian.jones@mcclv.org